

**§ 1205.10**

**7 CFR Ch. XI (1–1–08 Edition)**

**Subpart—Procedures for Conduct  
of Sign-up Period**

SOURCE: 62 FR 1660, Jan. 13, 1997, unless otherwise noted.

**DEFINITIONS**

**§ 1205.10 Act.**

The term *Act* means the Cotton Research and Promotion Act, as amended [7 U.S.C 2101–2118; Public Law 89–502, 80 Stat 279, as amended].

**§ 1205.11 Administrator.**

The term *Administrator* means the Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service, or any officer or employee of USDA to whom authority has been delegated to act in the Administrator's stead.

**§ 1205.12 Cotton.**

The term *cotton* means all Upland cotton harvested in the United States and all imports of Upland cotton, including the Upland cotton content of products derived thereof. The term *cotton* does not include imported cotton for which the assessment is less than the value of \$2.00 per line item entry as established by regulations.

[62 FR 1660, Jan. 13, 1997, as amended at 67 FR 21169, Apr. 30, 2002]

**§ 1205.13 Upland cotton.**

The term *Upland cotton* means all cultivated varieties of the species *Gossypium hirsutum* L.

**§ 1205.14 Department.**

The term *Department* means the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

**§ 1205.15 Farm Service Agency.**

The term *Farm Service Agency*—formerly Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS)—also referred to as “FSA,” means the Farm Service Agency of the Department.

**§ 1205.16 Order.**

The term *Order* means the Cotton Research and Promotion Order.

**§ 1205.17 Person.**

The term *person* means any individual 18 years of age or older, or any

partnership, corporation, association, or any other entity.

**§ 1205.18 Producer.**

The term *producer* means any person who shares in a cotton crop, or in the proceeds thereof, as an owner of the farm, cash tenant, landlord of a share tenant, share tenant, or sharecropper, that planted the cotton during the representative period.

[67 FR 21169, Apr. 30, 2002]

**§ 1205.19 Importer.**

The term *importer* means any person who enters, or withdraws from warehouse, cotton for consumption in the customs territory of the United States, and the term import means any such entry.

**§ 1205.20 Representative period.**

The term *representative period* means the 2006 calendar year.

[72 FR 51160, Sept. 6, 2007]

**§ 1205.21 Secretary.**

The term *Secretary* means the Secretary of Agriculture of the United States, or any other officer or employee of the Department to whom authority has been delegated to act in the Secretary's stead.

**§ 1205.22 State.**

The term *State* means each of the 50 states.

**§ 1205.23 United States.**

The term *United States* means the 50 states of the United States of America.

**PROCEDURES**

**§ 1205.24 General.**

A sign-up period will be conducted to determine whether eligible producers and importers favor the conduct of a referendum on the continuance of the 1991 amendments to the Order.

(a) If the Secretary determines, based on the results of the sign-up period, that at least 10 percent (4,622) or more of the number of cotton producers and importers who voted in the 1991 referendum request the conduct of a continuance referendum on the 1991 Order amendments, a referendum will be held

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within 12 months after the end of the sign-up period. Not more than 20 percent of the total requests counted toward the 10 percent figure may be from producers from any one state or from importers of cotton.

(b) If the Secretary determines that fewer than 10 percent (4,622) of the number of producers and importers who voted in the 1991 referendum do not favor a continuance referendum, no referendum will be held.

### § 1205.25 Supervision of sign-up period.

The Administrator shall be responsible for conducting the sign-up period in accordance with this subpart.

### § 1205.26 Eligibility.

Only persons who meet the eligibility requirements in this subpart may participate in the sign-up period. No person is entitled to sign up more than once.

(a) Except as set forth in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section, the following persons are eligible to request the conduct of a continuance referendum:

(1) Any person who was engaged in the production of Upland cotton during calendar year 2006; and

(2) Any person who was an importer of Upland cotton and imported Upland cotton in excess of the value of \$2.00 per line item entry during calendar year 2006.

(b) A general partnership is not eligible to request a continuance referendum, however, the individual partners of an eligible general partnership are each entitled to submit a request.

(c) Where a group of individuals is engaged in the production of Upland cotton under the same lease or cropping agreement, only the individual or individuals who signed or entered into the lease or cropping agreement are eligible to participate in the sign-up period. Individuals who are engaged in the production of Upland cotton as joint tenants, tenants in common, or owners of community property, are each entitled to submit a request if they share in the proceeds of the required crop as owners, cash tenants, share tenants, sharecroppers or landlords of a fixed rent, standing rent or share tenant.

(d) An officer or authorized representative of a qualified corporation, association, or limited partnership may submit a request on behalf of that corporation, association, or limited partnership.

(e) A guardian, administrator, executor, or trustee of any qualified estate or trust may submit a request on behalf of that estate or trust.

(f) An individual may not submit a request on behalf of another individual.

(g) Participation in the sign-up by proxy or power of attorney is not authorized.

[62 FR 1660, Jan. 13, 1997, as amended at 67 FR 21169, Apr. 30, 2002; 72 FR 51160, Sept. 6, 2007]

### § 1205.27 Participation in the sign-up period.

The sign-up period will be from September 4, 2007, through November 30, 2007. Those persons who favor the conduct of a continuance referendum and who wish to request that USDA conduct such a referendum may do so by submitting such request in accordance with this section. All requests must be received by the appropriate USDA office by November 30, 2007.

(a) Before the sign-up period begins, FSA shall establish a list of known, eligible, Upland cotton producers in the country that it serves during the representative period, and AMS shall also establish a list of known, eligible Upland cotton importers.

(b) Before the start of the sign-up period, AMS shall mail a request form to each known, eligible, cotton importer. Importers who wish to request a referendum and who do not receive a request form in the mail by September 4, 2007, may participate in the sign-up period by submitting a signed, written request for a continuance referendum, along with a copy of a U.S. Customs and Border Protection form 7501 showing payment of a cotton assessment for calendar year 2006. Importers must submit their requests and supporting documents to USDA, FSA, DAFO, Attention: Rick Pinkston, P.O. Box 23103, Washington, DC 20026-3103. All requests and supporting documents must be received by November 30, 2007.

(c) Each person on the county FSA office lists may participate in the sign-